



1 Thessalonians

Lesson 7: 1 Thessalonians 5:12–28

Doctrine, such as the Rapture and the Day of the Lord, is important to know. While believers await the return of Christ, we have a duty to live for Christ in the church and in the world. Just as every church has members who battle fallen flesh, so did the Thessalonians. The church was certainly growing in sanctification, but they needed to be encouraged to do so even more. Paul encouraged them to live holy lives so they would be found blameless when Christ returns. Let's dive in and see what encouragement Paul gives so that we might be encouraged to live a holy and blameless life.

➤ **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:12–13**

1. What two appeals does Paul make to the Thessalonians in these two verses?
2. In verse 12, what is the threefold responsibility of elders/pastors in the church?
3. In verse 13, what affection must the members have towards their leaders? Why?
4. What do the words “those” (v. 12) and “them” (v.13) tell you about leadership in the church?
5. Based on the context of these two verses, who does the “one another” in verse 13 refer to?
6. As Paul is writing about growing in sanctification, how do these verses help Christians to grow in sanctification?

Application: What are ways believers can live at peace with one another? How can you grow in this area?

➤ **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:14–15**

7. Who are the “brethren” in verse 14?

8. What four commands does Paul give in verse 14?

9. Who are the “everyone” at the end of verse 14? How do you know?

10. In verse 15, what two commands are given?

Application: Why are the commands of verse 15 hard to do? How can you grow in this area?

➤ **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:16–22**

11. In verses 16–18, what three commands are given to believers?

12. Christians quote verse 17 (“pray without ceasing”) often. What does this mean?

13. In verse 18, why are Christians commanded to do these three things?

14. In verses 19 – 22, list the five commands Paul gives the Thessalonians.

15. According to verse 21, you must “examine everything *carefully*.” How do we examine everything as believers?

Application: Are you discerning? In what ways can you grow personally in discernment?

Application: Of the eight commands listed in verses 16 – 22, which one do need to grow in? How are you going to do that?

➤ **Read 1 Thessalonians 5:23–28**

16. Who is involved in your sanctification?

17. Why does Paul use the word “entirely” in verse 23?

Application: What are things that distract you from pursuing sanctification? What can you do to grow?

18. What three things does verse 24 tell us about God?

19. In verses 25–27, what three things does Paul command the Thessalonians to do?

20. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 5:27, and 2 Thessalonians 2:15. How does Paul view his own writings? What does this tell you about Paul’s view of God’s Word?

Application: After reading verses 12 – 28, what are you doing to help Faith Bible Church grow? What can you grow in? What do you need to put away that could hinder the church from growing?

Application: What one verse in this passage impacted you the most? Why?